

Parliamentary Constituencies (Amendment) Bill

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Explanatory notes to the Bill, prepared by the Public Bill Office with the consent of Afzal Khan, the Member in charge of the Bill, are published separately as Bill 9–EN.

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TO

Amend the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 to make provision about the number and size of parliamentary constituencies in the United Kingdom; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Number of constituencies

For paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (rules for distribution of seats), substitute—

“1 Number of constituencies

(1) The number of constituencies in Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland) shall be 632. 5

(2) The number of constituencies in Northern Ireland shall be 18.”

2 Electorate per constituency

(1) Schedule 2 to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (rules for distribution of seats) is amended as follows. 10

(2) For paragraph 2 substitute—

“2 Electorate per constituency

(1) The electorate of any constituency in Great Britain shall be—

(a) no less than 92.5% of the Great Britain electoral quota, and 15
(b) no more than 107.5% of that quota.

(2) This rule is subject to rules 4(2) and 6(3).

(3) In this Schedule the “Great Britain electoral quota” means –

$$\frac{G}{628}$$

where

G is the electorate of Great Britain minus the electorate of the constituencies mentioned in rule 6. 5

(4) The electorate of any constituency in Northern Ireland shall be –
 (a) no less than 92.5% of the Northern Ireland electoral quota,
 and
 (b) no more than 107.5% of that quota.

(5) In this Schedule the “Northern Ireland electoral quota” means – 10

$$\frac{N}{18}$$

where

N is the electorate of Northern Ireland.”

(3) After paragraph 5(3) insert –

“(4) For the purpose of calculating the electorate of the United Kingdom the calculation shall – 15

(a) for the purpose of a Boundary Commission report submitted before 1st October 2020, be based on registers of parliamentary electors published for the 2017 general election, and 20

(b) for the purpose of subsequent Boundary Commission reports, be based on registers of parliamentary electors published for the most recent general election.”

(4) Omit paragraph 7.

3 Consequential amendments 25

(1) Schedule 2 to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (rules for distribution of seats) is amended as follows.

(2) In paragraph 3(2) for “the United Kingdom” substitute “Great Britain”.

(3) In paragraph 8(2) for “the United Kingdom” substitute “Great Britain”.

(4) In paragraph 8(3) for “the United Kingdom” substitute “Great Britain”. 30

(5) In paragraph 8(4) for “the United Kingdom” substitute “Great Britain”.

(6) For paragraph 9(6) substitute –

“(6) “Great Britain electoral quota” and “Northern Ireland electoral quota” have the meaning given by rule 2.”

4 Boundary Commissions: reports etc

(1) Section 3 of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (reports of the commissions) is amended as follows.

(2) For subsection (2) substitute –

- “(2) A Boundary Commission shall submit reports under subsection (1) above periodically – 5
- (a) before 1st October 2020, and
 - (b) before 1st October of every tenth year after that.”

5 Financial provisions

There is to be paid out of money provided by Parliament – 10

- (a) *any expenditure incurred under or by virtue of this Act, and*
- (b) *any increase attributable to this Act in the sums payable under any other Act out of money so provided.*

6 Extent, commencement and short title

(1) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. 15

(2) The provisions of this Act come into force on the day on which this Act is passed.

(3) This Act may be cited as the Parliamentary Constituencies (Amendment) Act 2018.

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B I L L

To amend the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 to make provision about the number and size of parliamentary constituencies in the United Kingdom; and for connected purposes.

*Presented by Afzal Khan,
supported by Joanna Cherry,
Hannah Bardell,
Mr Alistair Carmichael,
Liz Saville Roberts,
Lady Hermon,
and Caroline Lucas.*

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